

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the indicated allowability of the subject matter of claim 8, as set forth on pages 4 and 5 of the Office Action mailed December 17, 2008. By the present amendments, Applicants have incorporated the subject matter of claim 8 into claim 6; and, correspondingly, have cancelled claim 8 without prejudice or disclaimer. In light of incorporation of the subject matter of claim 8 into claim 6, whereby claim 6 now sets forth the subject matter of claim 8 in independent form, it is respectfully submitted that claim 6, and claim 7 dependent thereon, should be allowed.

The rejections of claims 6 and 7 under 35 USC 102(b) and under 35 USC 103(a), respectively, set forth respectively on pages 2 and 3, and on pages 3 and 4, of the Office Action mailed December 17, 2008, are noted. In view of incorporation of subject matter of claim 8 into claim 6, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections of claims 6 and 7 are moot.

Applicants have cancelled non-elected claims 1-5 and 9-14 without prejudice or disclaimer, and, in particular, without prejudice to the filing of a Divisional application directed to the subject matter thereof.

In view of the foregoing comments and amendments, reconsideration and allowance of all claims remaining in the above-identified application are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Kindly charge any shortage of fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including any extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account of

Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Account No. 01-2135 (case 520.46379X00),
and please credit any overpayments to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

By /William I. Solomon/
William I. Solomon
Registration No. 28,565

WIS/ksh
1300 N. 17th Street, Suite 1800
Arlington, Virginia 22209
Tel: 703-312-6600
Fax: 703-312-6666